



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,722	10/31/2003	Peter Van Voris	TMG 2-001-3-3	1568

7590 01/11/2006

Jerry K. Mueller, Jr.  
Mueller and Smith, LPA  
7700 Rivers Edge Drive  
Columbus, OH 43235

EXAMINER
----------

LEVY, NEIL S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1615

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/698,722

Applicant(s)

VORIS ET AL.

Examiner

NEIL LEVY

Art Unit

1615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 36-67 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-67 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. 10-29-05
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-35, drawn to methods, classified in class 424, subclass 409.
- II. Claim 36-67, drawn to compositions, classified in class 514, subclass 531.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

Inventions of groups I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process for using the product claimed can be practiced with materially different products, such as the laminated barriers of Von Kohorn.

The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re*

Brouwer and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: POLYMER SPECIES ; polyurethane----ppolyethyene.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-35 are generic.

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: pesticide species: Bifenthrin---permethrin

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-35 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

During a telephone conversation with attorney Jerry Mueller , Jr. on 10/19/05 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of Goup I SPECIES POLYURETHANE & PERMETHRIN, claim1-35. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claim36-67 stand withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 33-35 sare rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

These are method claims, but recited as “—THE COMPOSITION—” thus posing possible confusion as to intent to claim these composition outside of “the METHOD --wherein the colloid Clay --”. If examiner is incorrect, & these are

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over.

Kodama et al 5747519 and Van Voris et al 5801194 in view of Knudson-4849006 and Hackh's

Absent specific limitations of the instant claims, Kodama applies barriers to prevent termite passage (column 1, lines 45-47) to structures-houses (column 1, lines 37-43). The composition contain a polymer component-casein, gelatin, starch, etc (column 4, top) and pest control agents, inclusive of pyrethrin(7, column2), with adsorbent clays (column 3, lines 47-48). Although not specifying "beads" or "colloids", Kodama does include these components as a colloidal bead would be within the description of the Kodama clays. Von Voris also show substitution of amorphous silica or clay for carbon black (column---, lines 50-66) used to provide barrier composition of polyurethanes and pyrethroids (example 3). Pyrethrins are included (column 5, lines 40-41)\_.

Here we are shown increased carrier surface area provides for advantageous high concentration of pesticide (column 6, lines 62-66). Claim 3 antimicrobial agents, fungicides, may be incorporated (column 5, lines 44-45). Van voris utilizes other polymers, polyethylene, polypropylene for example (column 6, bottom; column 7 (top). Thus, the instant claims 2-17, disclosing the various polyurethane forms, are met because polyurethane is not REQUIRED as the claim 1 polymer component. Application includes spraying (fig.12) and bonding to a structure, polymeric sheeting of the polymer/pesticide/carrier is done (column 7, lines 7-12). The product then applied to another structure (fig. 3 and 4). Also, soil or concrete application is foreseen (column 9, lines 47-64,) to protect

Art Unit: 1615

against termites (column 3, top). Wood structures are not limited (column 3) and applicant has shown no criticality or unexpected results attributable to treating and specific wood form or location, or soil mixing, nor of the source of clay. since the Von Voris disclosure recites large surface area of the carbon filler, we would find the silica or clays to also provide this surface area as shown by Kodama to be of the same source, bentonite, as the instant claimed clays, and, of the same particle size ranges, permitting incorporation of 10 % pyrethrin as of examples 2 and 3 of Van Voris.

Knudson 4849006 teaches controlled release of pesticide is achieved by adsorbing onto colloidal clays (column 2, lines 36-56) of smectite clays, bentonite (column 3). Particle size is not given, however, colloidal is within nanometer size. Combination with active is shown at examples. Since the clays are the instant, their features are also of size, shape of the smectite clays

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, desiring to utilize a pestidal barrier for long term protection, to make one of KODAMA & VAN VORIS, modified to optimize protection of the desired material by utilizing a colloidal carrier, as taught by Knudson to enhance controlled release of a pesticide..

The selection of each ingredient is a result effective parameter chosen to obtain the desired effects. It would be obvious to vary the nature of each ingredient to optimize the effects desired such as length of time for desired protection, item to be protected, target species, and the use of ingredients for the functionally for which they are known to be used is not a basis for patentability.

It has not clearly been established by an objective showing of some additional unusual and/or unexpected result that the preparation of the particular barrier form, delivery method or target provides any greater level of prior art criticality or expectation as claimed.

Claim s 1, 3, 18, 20, 23, 25, 26, 29-32, 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Dittmar-4066777

Wood, fiber board structures, plants are coated with compositions (column 15, lines 3-45) of polymer components (column 18, compositions) and finely divided kaolin, atlapulgite, montmorillonite, pyrophyllites, vermiculite (column 19, line 45; column 20, line 40) and fungicides (column 11, line 21). Insecticides, bacteriocides, additives are present (column 22). Additives, structures coated by dips, spray, paints (column 15, line 60; column 16, line 83). See example 9-



Art Unit: 1615

particle size in less than 5 microns. Example 10 has clay, kaolin, fungicide and polymer component, micropulverized, sprayed on plants.

.Claim s 1, 2, 4-17, 19, 23 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim1-20 of copending Application No. 10/816095. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because The instant application provides the same barrier composition as 816095, thus useful in obvious means to control the same pests.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

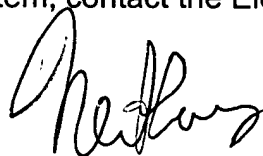
A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NEIL LEVY whose telephone number is 571-272-0619. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday, 7 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, THURMAN PAGE can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



NEIL LEVY  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1615

\*\*\*